

Appl. No. 09/254,743
Amdt. dated January 10, 2005

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 34-38 and 44-54 are pending.

Applicants note with appreciation the indicated allowability of claim 41. Claims 34, 39, 44-46, 48 and 55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Norell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,205,719).

Claims 35-38, 40-43, 47 and 49-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Norell et al.

Claims 35, 39, 40, 42, 43 and 50-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Norell et al. in view of Herbst.

These rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants have amended claim 34 to include the subject matter of claims 39, 40 and 41. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 34 is now allowable.

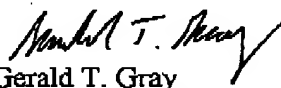
Claims 35-38 and 44-54 depend, either directly or indirectly, on allowable claim 34 and therefore, they are allowable for at least the reasons claim 34 is allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


Gerald T. Gray
Reg. No. 41,797

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
KTL:lo (GTG/sea)
60111068 v2